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TAGS: SHUM, HA
SUBJECT: LETTER FROM CONGRESSMEN DIXON AND FAUNTROY TO
PRESIDENT DUVALIER

REF: MCMANAWAY-SHELTON TELCOM OF 7/11/84

1. FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF A LETTER TO PRESIDENT
DUVALIER SIGNED BY TWO CONGRESSMEN, JULIAN C. DIXON (D -
CALIF) AND WALTER E. FAUNTROY (D - WASH DC). THE
ORIGINAL, WITH AN UNSEALED ENVELOPE, IS BEING POUCHED TO
EMBASSY TODAY, JULY 12. DIXON'S STAFF HAS ASKED THAT THE
EMBASSY ASSURE THAT LETTER IS DELIVERED TO DUVALIER IN
WHATEVER FASHION AMBASSADOR MCMANAWAY DEEMS APPROPRIATE.
TEXT FOLLOWS.

2. BEGIN TEXT.

JULY 10, 1984

PRESIDENT JEAN-CLAUDE DUVALIER
PRESIDENT'S PALACE
PORT-AU-PRINCE, HAITI

DEAR PRESIDENT DUVALIER:

AS MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS WHO HAVE
ACTIVELY SUPPORTED STRONG TIES BETWEEN OUR GOVERNMENTS
AND PEOPLES, WE FEEL A NEED TO SHARE WITH YOU THE PRESENT
CIRCUMSTANCES IN WHICH WE FIND OURSELVES.

THIS LETTER FINDS US IN A DIFFICULT POSITION. THE STATE
DEPARTMENT AND THE CONGRESS PRESENTLY ARE EXAMINING THE
HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVITIES OF YOUR GOVERNMENT. ALLEGATIONS
OF DETENTIONS WITHOUT CHARGES, PRESS CENSORSHIP,
INTIMIDATION OF CERTAIN PERSONS BY SECURITY FORCES, AND
THE BAN ON POLITICAL PARTIES ARE MATTERS OF VIGOROUS
DEBATE AMONG MEMBERS OF CONGRESS AND IN THE PRESS.

CONSEQUENTLY, INFLUENTIAL POLICYMAKERS THROUGHOUT THE
U.S. GOVERNMENT HAVE RENEWED THE CALL FOR SANCTIONS
AGAINST YOUR NATION. EVEN A MEMBER OF THE CONGRESSIONAL
BLACK CAUCUS HAS INTRODUCED A RESOLUTION THAT CALLS FOR
THE SUSPENSION OF ECONOMIC AID TO HAITI.

WE COMMEND YOUR LETTER OF THIS PAST SPRING BANNING
VIOLENT ABUSES OF AUTHORITY IN YOUR ADMINISTRATION.
ALSO, THAT THERE WERE FEW CASUALTIES IN THE RECENT

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RIOTING IS A FACT THAT HAS NOT GONE UNNOTICED. IT WOULD
BE IMPRUDENT, HOWEVER, FOR YOU TO RELY SOLELY ON YOUR
STATED GOOD INTENTIONS TO WEATHER THE STORM OF OUTRAGE
THAT HAS BEGUN TO BREW HERE. THE CONTINUED DISCUSSION IN
OUR COUNTRY OF ALLEGED VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN
HAITI WILL SURELY HAVE A NEGATIVE IMPACT ON OUR RELATIONS.

IT IS OUR HOPE THAT THIS COMMUNICATION WILL ENLIGHTEN
YOU, AND UNDERScore BOTH OUR SUPPORT FOR THE CONSTRUCTIVE
CHANGES YOU HAVE UNDERTAKEN, AND OUR CONCERN THAT YOUR
GOVERNMENT INCREASE ITS VIGILANCE IN UPHOLDING HUMAN
RIGHTS SO THAT WE MAY PUT THE DEBATE OVER THE ISSUE TO AN
END.

SINCERELY,

JULIAN C. DIXON

WALTER E. FAUNTROY
DAM
END OF MESSAGE

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